

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-15 OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19

NIC-01 EB-11 FAA-00 DRC-01 /160 W

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R 291245Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 33

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS VIENNA 8056

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, AU

SUBJECT: INITIAL POLITICAL REACTIONS TO TERRORIST INCIDENT

1. JUSTICE MINISTER BRODA FULLY SUPPORTED LAST NIGHT'S CABINET DECISION TO MEET TERRORISTS DEMANDS FOR CLOSING SCHOENAU FACILITY IN RETURN FOR SAVING LIVES OF HOSTAGES. HE EMPHASIZED THAT GOA CONSIDERS SAVING LIVES AS TOP-MOST PRIORITY AND NOTED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT GOVERNMENT NEVER WAIVERED IN ITS REFUSAL TO PERMIT TERRORIST DEPARTURE WITH HOSTAGES.

2. PEOPLE'S PARTY LEADERS SCHLEINZER AND KOREN HIGHLY CRITICAL OF THE WAY GOA HANDLED CRISES. IN RADIO INTERVIEW, SCHLEINZER STATED THAT GOVERNMENT HAD NOT CONTACTED MAJOR OPPOSITION PARTY PRIOR TO REACHING ITS DECISION. IN HIS VIEW, GOA COMMITTED TRAGIC ERROR BY GRANTING TERRORISTS INTERNATIONAL LAW STATUS. HE OPINED THAT KREISKY, UNDER STRESS OF CRISIS, WAS UNAWARE OF FAR-REACHING NEGATIVE REPERCUSSIONS FOR AUSTRIA ENTAILED IN HIS DECISION. KOREN STATED THAT HE WAS HAPPY THAT NO BLOOD WAS SHED BUT "SHOCKED AT THE PRICE THE GOVERNMENT WAS WILLING TO PAY".

3. IN ABSENCE OF FREEDOM PARTY CHAIRMAN PETER, FPOE MP BROESIGKE EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT GOA, ALTHOUGH CONFRONTED WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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EMERGENCY SITUATION, ACTED WITHOUT LEGAL BASIS AND MADE ERRONEOUS

DECISION WHICH MAY HAVE FAR-REACHING REPRECUSIONS. SAID HE, "THE WHOLECOUNTRY SHOULD NOT ALLOW ITSELF TO BE BLACKMAILED BY TWO TERRORISTS". HE ADDED THAT THEREIS NO FOREIGN POLICY JUSTIFICATION FOR GOA DECISION AND THAT REPUTATION OF AUSTRIA "WILL NOT BE ENHANCED BY SUCH CAPITUALATION".

4. GOA DECISION TO MEET DEMANDS OF TERRORISTS AND RELATED EVENTS OCCURRED TOO LATE FOR EDITORIAL COMMENT TO HAVE BEEN CARRIED BY THIS MORNING'S PRESS. HUMES

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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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